

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 13, 2022
Town Hall Council Chambers and Zoom

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Mark Philhower, Vice Chairman Tim Feegel, Council Members Pete Brown, Brandon Goff, Eric Peterson, Kevin Reich and Alison Walck and Town Manager David Cox

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Philhower called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers and via Zoom.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Walck, seconded by Mr. Goff, to adopt the agenda as presented. Voted (7-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Goff, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Special Meeting of November 22, 2022 and the Regular Meeting of November 22, 2022 as written. Voted (6-0-1) Ms. Walck abstained as she was not present at the meetings.

Public Remarks

Russ Kaplan, Chairman of the Clean Energy Task Force, read a letter into the minutes regarding adding solar to the Middle School Roof. The letter will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Presentations

Chairman Philhower thanked Police Officers Tim DeRoehn and Mike Salafia and Sergeant Hardie Burgin for their work on the investigation and fentanyl drug bust over the weekend.

Bids & Contracts

None

Resolution/ Ordinances/ Policies/ Proclamations

Proclamation Honoring Retiring Police Sergeant Jared Boynton

The Council presented a proclamation to retiring Police Sergeant Jared Boynton.

Continued Business

Sub-Committee Reports & Updates

Vice Chairman Feegel and Mr. Cox reported for the Water Sub-Committee. The water testing was done at Oakum Dock and the results were good. Results are included in the Town Manager's Report. The design work will be done over the next several months. The sub-committee will meet again in February with a possible public meeting in March.

Review and Discussion of Council Questions and Follow-Up Requests Regarding Ambulance Association Operations

Mr. Cox received some questions from Council members. Ms. Walck noted her concern on page 10 of the ambulance report, 3rd paragraph – What training is required for the individual and what is the liability. Mr. Reich provided his questions on paper.

Mr. Cox will put together the questions and provide the full list to the Council members prior to sending them to the Ambulance Association Board of Directors. The item will be included on a future Council agenda for follow up to the questions.

Follow-Up Discussion Regarding the Town's Assessment and Tax Relief Programs

Mr. Cox provided listings of mandatory and local options for tax relief. The Town currently has the optional programs for a tax freeze, the specially adapted house and the stipend for firefighters implemented. There were questions about changing the income requirements on some of the programs. The item will remain on the agenda and changes to ordinances and implementation of new programs will be ongoing.

New Business

Motion to Set Date for Timely Business Personal Property Tax Filings

A motion was made by Mr. Goff, seconded by Mr. Feegel, to grant the exemption under Section 12-81(76) of the CT General Statutes to American Distilling pursuant to Section 12-94e of the CT General Statutes and to declare that the related business personal property tax filing was received timely. Voted (7-0).

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Cox provided his written report for the Council members which will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office. Mr. Cox also noted that the Finance Department has again received the GFOA award for the annual financial report for FY2021. The Parks & Recreation Department has been notifying residents that the parking lot for the Air Line Trail at the Cranberry Bog will be closed for a few days as DEEP puts up a fence near the bog. Mr. Cox showed photos of the new Public Works truck that was rebuilt from parts of a fire truck. The work was done both in-house and with a vendor. Another truck will be done fully in-house. The cost for the truck was approximately \$75K as opposed to a new truck that would cost \$250K.

Appointments

A motion was made by Mr. Goff, seconded by Mr. Reich, to appoint the following:

- Jean Sundstrom to the Commission on Aging
- Sali Cosford Parker to the Commission on Aging
- Sean Flynn to the Economic Development Commission
- Cathy Ann Clark to the Zoning Board of Appeals (alternate)

Voted (7-0)

Tax Refunds

A motion was made by Ms. Walck, seconded by Mr. Goff, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$1,041.74. Voted (7-0).

Public Remarks

None

Communications, Correspondence & Announcements

November Board and Commission Summary

Council members received the November Board and Commission Summary.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Goff, seconded by Ms. Walck, to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Voted (7-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk